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CITATION OF REFERENCES

Enclosed herewith on an Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form PTO-1449) is a list of references for consideration by the Examiner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-identified application, and, consequently, no fee or statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) is required. Furthermore, copies of the references which were cited in the International Preliminary Examination Report are not being provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), as copies of these references will be provided to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) by the International Bureau. If for any reason the International Bureau does not provide the USPTO with copies of these references, it is requested that Applicant's undersigned representative be so notified, and appropriate means will then be taken to furnish the reference copies.

As FR 2 762 213 and EP 669 129 are in the French language, copies of English language equivalents thereof, viz. Derwent Abstract and U.S. Patent 5,651,985 respectively, are submitted herewith for the Examiner's convenience.

Date:

April 12, 2001



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